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Attorney Docket No. 56922 (70868)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**APPLICANT:** T. Yamamoto et al. **EXAMINER:** S. Versteeg  
**U.S.S.N.:** 10/058,341 **ART UNIT:** 1753  
**FILED:** January 28, 2002  
**TITLE:** BACKING PLATE USED FOR SPUTTERING APPARATUS AND SPUTTERING METHOD

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(N.E.)  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached, enclosed or accompanying) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop AF**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 15, 2003.

By

  
Donna R. Davis

.....  
**Mail Stop AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

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Sir:

In response to the office action dated July 15, 2003, please consider the following amendments and remarks pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116 in favor of the allowance of claims 1-7 of the above-referenced patent application.

**In the Claims**

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5 and 7 as indicated below, wherein any additions to the amended claims are underlined, and any deletions to the amended claims are presented as struckthrough text.